

Hunter Mill News

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Winter/Spring 2002

Letter from Supervisor Hudgins

As another year begins, it is a good time for reflection. Over the past two years the Hunter Mill District Office has been hard at work to increase communication between citizens and its local government. Essential to this has been the free flow of information and access to your elected member of the Board of Supervisors. The creation of a web site that provides current information and a Constituent Response Form, publishing bi-annual newsletters, Saturday constituent hours, and a monthly cable show all are intended to foster an exchange of information with the community.

Another important method of involving citizens has been the community meetings that have addressed transportation, land use, the immigrant and refugee community, and the Dulles Corridor Rail Project. Citizens have a formal citizen role in the land use decision-making process through the Hunter Mill District Land Use Committee and the continued service of the Reston Planning and Zoning Committee.

A new more cooperative working relationship with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) allows citizens to meet with VDOT officials to provide a citizen perspective early in the process of proposed projects. Citizens became involved early on in the Hunter Mill Road and Centreville Road projects and it was through the work of citizens that the Old Reston Avenue road project was re-evaluated to reduce the impact on this historic corridor and provide a more pedestrian-friendly corridor. As the saying goes, excuse the dust as that project moves to completion in early spring.

But actually, nothing that has happened in the past two years has had a greater impact on all of us than the events of September 11, 2001. Our interdependence was highlighted by the acts of terrorists. Through the support of our faith based community leaders, the community came together to seek solace and to support each other

(Continued on page 3)



Inside This Issue

Transportation Project Status	2
Parks	2
Vienna Teen Center	3
Vienna Planning Workshops	3
Consumer Services	4
Saturday Hours	4
Dogwood Elementary Reopens	5
Vienna Mural	5
Emergency Preparedness	6
Legislative Program	7
Hunter Mill District Contact Info	8

KEY ISSUES IN HUNTER MILL DISTRICT

Transportation Project Status

Hunter Mill Road Task Force

—The Hunter Mill Road Task Force continues to meet with their consultant. VDOT will coordinate meetings in the coming months.

Route 7—VDOT plans to expand Route 7 from Rolling Holly Drive to Tyco Road to six lanes. The project consists of two phases, western and eastern. The western phase will be from Rolling Holly Drive to Reston Parkway at a cost of \$13 million. A citizen information meeting was held on Nov. 27, 2001 and was well attended. The Public Hearing is scheduled for Summer 2002. The eastern phase, currently without funding, is from Reston Parkway to Tyco Road. The public hearing is scheduled for Fall 2002.

Route 28—The Route 28 Corridor Improvement Project will transform the 14-mile highway that stretches between Route 7 and I-66 into a limited access freeway. Signalized intersections will be removed and replaced with 10 high-capacity interchanges. Two lanes will be added to the existing six-lane section, easing traffic flow and congestion throughout the area. The only interchange in the Hunter Mill District will be at Frying Pan Road.

Fairfax County Parkway section opened in early November 2001

—The northern section of the Fairfax County Parkway opened to vehicle traffic eight months ahead of schedule in November 2001. The project includes construction of a grade separated diamond interchange at Baron Cameron Avenue and construction of a four lane divided roadway from Walnut Branch Road to Sunset Hills Road/Spring Street. Terrabrook provided about \$12 million in contributions that funded the Parkway project. The asphalt trail parallel to the Parkway will be completed in June 2002.

Centreville Road—VDOT continues to work with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources regarding issues around the history of Floris area. A public hearing is anticipated in the Fall of 2002.

Secondary Road Program

—The Board of Supervisors (BOS) will schedule a public hearing in early 2002 on the proposed VDOT Secondary System Construction Program and Construction Budget. In preparation for the update of the Program, VDOT takes a comprehensive review of the individual project cost estimates and projected schedules. The Program prioritizes road construction projects for Fairfax County and is updated annually by the BOS. Included on the list are projects

such as the Springfield Interchange and Fairfax County Parkway.

Parks

Re-master Plan for Frying Pan Park

—A community task force has been established to review the current Master Plan for Frying Pan Park to add or delete facilities in the park. The park is located at 2709 West Ox Road in Herndon. The task force meetings are held at the Old Schoolhouse at Frying Pan Park. They are open to the public. The next meeting will be on January 7, 2002 at 7:30 p.m. Check the Hunter Mill District web site for information on future meetings, or call the Park Authority at 703-324-8741.

The park is home to Kidwell Farm, a working model farm typical of farms found in Fairfax County in the early 20th Century. Also at Frying Pan is an indoor activity center, indoor and outdoor riding arenas, and an equestrian trail.

Snow removal and potholes

Most primary, secondary, and residential streets in Fairfax County are maintained by the Virginia Department of Transportation. For questions regarding snow removal, please call 703-383-8368 or see the web site at :
<http://virginiadot.org/infoservice/faq-snowremovalnova.asp>

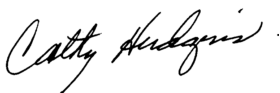
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during this tragic time. Hunter Mill District directly shared in the loss of Lenny Taylor and Norma Cruz-Khan in the Pentagon crash. Fairfax County police and fire and rescue personnel did the job we have grown accustomed to them doing: keeping our community safe. They were joined by numerous public health and other county personnel. Over the past three months, local and regional officials have met to assure that the community will withstand this or future attacks.

While emergency plans were already in place in Fairfax County Government and the region, the nature of the events of September 11 required a re-evaluation and update of these plans. Fairfax County Government held Emergency Preparedness Forums around the County, including a forum at Sunrise Valley Elementary School. In the Northern Virginia region, every resident should have received the "Home Guide to Emergency Preparedness." The document, available at www.fairfaxcounty.gov under Emergency, is designed to help citizens meet their responsibility to be prepared at home in the event of an emergency.

As we start the New Year, let us thank those who have stood with us during the difficult days last year. Let us remember that we can truly work together as a community if we only take the time to do so.

Happy New Year!



Catherine M. Hudgins
Supervisor, Hunter Mill District

Vienna Teen Center

By Sue Hamblen

The Vienna Teen Center Foundation launched an effort to open a Teen Center for the youth of Vienna two years ago. A mix of public and private funds were identified and procured and Club Phoenix opened in September of 1999. Over 2,800 teens were surveyed to create an attractive facility. A soda fountain atmosphere with pool tables, an impressive audio/visual system and a stage were incorporated into the 2,000 sq. ft. of space the Town of Vienna provided for us.

The club is open on Friday nights for Jr. High students and Saturday night to the High School students. Teen Councils determine the programming for both nights and many dances, tournaments, special events and concerts are scheduled throughout the year. Membership is free and a Club Card is issued upon registration.

The Foundation has also collaborated with the Fairfax Partnership for Youth, to develop the Support on Suspension Program and has sponsored the Madison High School Ethics Day for the past two years. The Ethics Day event was very successful in presenting interesting ethical scenarios to the entire senior class.

Town of Vienna Planning Workshops

by Maud F. Robinson, Vienna Town Councilwoman

The focus of the workshops was to help the Town build on its ongoing efforts at improvement and, most important, to develop a sustainable vision for Vienna's well being in the next 10 to 20 years. The focus was on downtown Vienna, with particular emphasis on the central commercial core encompassing Maple Avenue from Lawyers Road to Glyndon Street, Church and Mills Streets, and a portion of Dominion Road. Topics explored included developing incentives for good building design, attracting businesses and services needed in town, and creating an attractive environment in which to operate a business and shop so that Vienna retains a sound commercial base. Another concern was enlisting the interest and cooperation of business owners. It should be noted that the business community generates approximately 35% of Town tax revenue, hence the emphasis on maintaining its viability.

The workshops validated the need to look beyond the present, to have the courage to take new and innovative steps, to respect the past, but not become so entrenched in the familiarity of the present that we forfeit the future.

Dennis Kern RCC Executive Director

A warm welcome to Dennis Kern, the new Director of the Reston Community Center. Mr. Kern moved to Reston from Northern California in 1989. He completed a career with the U.S. Navy in October 2001. His last assignment was in the Pentagon as the Executive Assistant to the Under Secretary of the Navy. A Navy pilot, Kern's previous assignments included aviation squadron commander, military installation commander, chief of staff for a Navy regional headquarters as well as several overseas postings in Spain and Japan. His wife, Kate, is a Fairfax County Public Schools educator. She teaches 5th grade at Buzz Aldrin Elementary School in Reston. He has a daughter, Emily, who lives and works in San Francisco, CA and a son, Julian, who is a South Lakes High School graduate and is a freshman at Warren Wilson College in Asheville, NC.

Area Plans Review

The Hunter Mill Area Plans Review Task Force has been meeting since September 24, 2001 and reviewing the nominations submitted for changes to the Comprehensive Plan. The Task Force recommendations will be completed and forwarded to the Planning Commission (available on the Hunter Mill District web site at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/bos/hm/apprrecommend.html>) by January 23, 2002.

Consumer Services

Fairfax County Consumer Services Division provides a variety of services for County citizens, including mediating consumer and tenant-landlord disputes, licensing and regulation of taxicab drivers, peddlers, solicitors, gun dealers, precious metal and gem dealers, and pawnbrokers. Going Out-of-Business sales are also handled by Consumer Services.

Complaints with cable service should be filed with Consumer Services at <http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/living/cable/default.htm> by clicking on "File A Complaint" or calling 703-324-5900

Points of contact:

Cox:

Gary T. McCollum
Vice President, General Manager
Cox Communications
14650 Old Lee Road
Chantilly, VA 20151

Comcast:

Troy Fitzhugh
Vice President, General Manager
Comcast Communications
4391 Dale Boulevard
Woodbridge, VA 22193

Communities That Care Youth Survey

A survey by Fairfax County Public Schools and Fairfax County staff last summer entitled "Communities That Care Youth Survey" studied the prevalence of certain behaviors by County students in grades 8, 10, and 12. Among the areas studied were drug and alcohol use, aggressive behaviors, depression, and the risk factors associated with these things. The study highlights a number of compelling facts about our community's youth. It is available on the County web site at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/comm/demogrph/pdf/youthreport.pdf>.

2002 Saturday Constituent Hours

Supervisor Hudgins will meet with Hunter Mill District citizens from 9 a.m. to Noon on the following dates at these locations:

Hunter Mill District Office

North County Governmental Center
12000 Bowman Towne Drive
Reston, VA 20190

March 16
May 18
October 19

Vienna Town Hall

127 Center Street SW
Vienna, VA 22180

February 9
April 6
June 15

Vienna Elementary School Flag

Vienna Elementary School Children created a large American flag which will be on permanent display at the Pentagon. The flag is 16 by 8 feet and is made up of smaller flags, each carrying a message from the students. It was presented to the Fairfax County Police Department by the students and their principal on November 28, 2001. The children wanted to express their thanks and good wishes to public safety personnel.

Congratulations Eagle Scouts

David A. McDowell
Andrew Pick
Louis A. Tomasetti

Email Newsletter

To obtain the Hunter Mill News via email, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hm/emailnews.html and fill out the form.



Dogwood Elementary School Reopens

By Dogwood Principal Ricki Harvey

There are many happy families and staff members at Dogwood Elementary now that their official opening has been announced for January 14th, 2002. The students' last day in the two Fairfax City schools will be December 21. Given that they are on the Modified School Calendar, the students will attend intersession the first two weeks in January at the Reston Community Center and the YMCA. The office is scheduled to set up in Reston immediately after the winter break. Everyone is anxious to be back in their community and back to the systems and routines of a neighborhood school.

The school opening will take place 13 weeks early because of the concerted efforts of the Fairfax County Site Plan and Permit Division, the Fairfax County Public School Design and Construction, Information Technology, Office of Supply Operations, and Financial Services. Miller Brothers construction company has done an excellent job working side by side with the school system team. The highest level of service and commitment has been demonstrated by these individuals for the past 12 months.

The two-story, state of the art building is equipped with the most current technology of any school building in Fairfax. The school is developing plans to best utilize these tools with an advanced technology focus for all children. All teachers will have laptop computers and two mobile laptop labs have been purchased with donation money for students. Teams of teachers are also looking to see how to increase partnerships between the school and the greater Reston community so that together they can meet the needs of families and children. **The public is invited to an Open House on January 28th from 3-6 p. m.** The students, staff and PTA hope everyone will join them in appreciation and celebration.



Vienna Mural

If you haven't already seen it, drop by the Vienna Mural, located adjacent to the Washington & Old Dominion trail near the caboose at the Vienna train station. Vienna Town Councilman Bob McCormick initiated the mural project. He saw an opportunity on what was a previously blank wall that faced the W&OD Trail. A citizen's group was formed to evaluate proposed designs for the mural and Harris Miller's design was chosen for the final painting. The mural is 25 feet tall and 108 feet long and the images depict the role of the railroad on Vienna's history. Next time you are in Vienna, be sure to check out the mural.

Fairfax County Fiscal Year 2003 Budget

Fairfax County's Fiscal Year 2003 Budget promises to present some difficult challenges. A downturn in the economy, followed by the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, contributed to significant declines in County revenue. In response, County Executive Tony Griffin directed all county agencies to identify five-percent reductions in the current budget, in anticipation of an expected 12.9 percent decrease in revenue for FY 2002.

Exempted from the reductions were public safety and portions of facilities management and the health department, all of which experienced increased service requirements due to the terrorist attacks. Real estate assessments are expected to rise again this year, while sales tax receipts, interest on investments, and other revenue sources will decline.

County Executive Griffin will present his FY 2003 Budget to the Board of Supervisors on February 25, 2002 and the Budget Public Hearings are scheduled for April 8-10, 2002. The fiscal year extends from July 1 to June 31.

Emergency Preparedness

By Captain Edwin Roessler

Commander, Reston District Station, Fairfax County Police Department

The Fairfax County Police Department, along with other County agencies, is in a constant preparedness mode to respond to a wide range of emergency situations from natural or technological disasters to riots or other intentional acts of mass destruction. The primary mission of the police in an emergency is to provide for the protection of life and property.

When viewing the global aspects of the police department's mission to constantly be prepared for large-scale emergencies, the consistent factor for achieving such a goal is systematic planning year round. As commander of the Reston District Station, I am responsible for ensuring that I have updated listings of all available resources to handle events and that I continually coordinate emergency response plans with our Emergency Management Division. The Director of the Emergency Management Division is the County Executive. This is accomplished by several methods, to include sensitive site assessments, inventory of specialized equipment, coordination with the County's overall Disaster Operation Plan, and staffing analysis to name a few.

The Reston District Station maintains several emergency operations manuals which contain critical information to quickly handle major events. Some manuals provide us with alternate routing systems for our roadways, evacuation methods, and procedures for incident command. Items specific to the Reston District are kept on file with the Emergency Management Division, which in times of disasters/major events, coordinates all responses to emergencies for all Fairfax County agencies. Thus, there is a unified command response to ensure all County, State, and Federal resources are made available quickly and effectively. The County also participates with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments should there be a need to request additional resource support from other local jurisdictions.

Regardless of the origin of a disaster or major event, the Police Department continues to plan broad strategies with other agencies to ensure we all respond as a team to quickly return life to a normal state. Part of the strategic planning involves tabletop exercises designed to develop unified command response among the many different agencies that become involved in emergency events. As commander of the Reston District, I am always seeking input from the community to make sure we can provide the best delivery of police services both routine and emergency in nature. If you have suggestions or would like a presentation for your business or community association on our emergency preparedness or any other issue, please do not hesitate to contact me at: Edwin.Roessler@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Homeowner Association Email Addresses

Frequently, information that may be of interest to homeowners associations is available on short notice. To increase the ease of communication between the Hunter Mill office and the local homeowners associations, we are soliciting the e-mail addresses of all homeowners association presidents. The two optimal ways of providing these addresses to the office would be to contact us either via phone at 703-478-0283 or via e-mail at hntmill@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Thank you for your cooperation and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Welcome New Public Safety Officers

Captain II J.T. Harrison,
Station Commander at the new North Point Fire and Rescue Station 39.

Lieutenant Tor Bennett,
Assistant Commander at the Reston District Station.

Bus Service Changes

- RIBS routes 1, 2, 3, and 4 now operate every 30 minutes.
- Route 950 replaces Route 904, with service every 30 minutes from Reston to Herndon.
- Route 505 replaces Route 905, with service every 30 minutes.
- Service frequency on several routes were increased. See www.fairfaxconnector.com for more information.

Legislative Program

The Board of Supervisors recently approved the Fairfax County Legislative Program for the 2002 Virginia General Assembly. What follows is a synopsis of several of the Board's positions and initiatives:

Tree Preservation

Among the Board's recommendations were two legislative initiatives regarding tree preservation on land development sites. The first piece of potential legislation would allow the County to prevent developers from planting low quality trees simply to meet tree cover requirements. Such trees are often structurally weak, poorly suited for the land in Fairfax County, or invasive to native plants. The second would allow the County to require developers to preserve some portion of existing trees rather than simply replace them all with nursery grown trees to meet tree cover requirements.

Sales Tax Referendum

The recent election spawned a great deal of discussion about a possible tax referendum for Northern Virginia. Delegate Jim Dillard is proposing legislation in the General Assembly that would allow counties, towns, and cities to pose a referendum for citizens to vote on whether to increase the sales tax by one cent to pay for transportation and schools. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has previously made clear its support in concept of such a referendum and did so again in their Legislative Program. This referendum would allow the County to pay for transportation projects at a faster rate and would provide for increased school construction funding.

Dangerous Weapons In Public Facilities

The Board of Supervisors has taken a position of support for legislation that would prohibit people from bringing dangerous weapons of any kind, including firearms, into public facilities excepting those who have been issued a permit to carry a concealed weapon. The legislation sought would put this decision in the hands of local governments and would overturn Virginia Code that prohibits such action by localities. Virginia Code already bans possession of firearms in courthouses, in places of worship, and on the property of public and private schools. This legislation would simply extend this ban to other county facilities.

School Funding

In a joint position with the Fairfax County School Board, the Board of Supervisors has endorsed the report by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) which stated that the Standards of Qual-

► **Legislative Program** *Continued on page 8*

How to Connect with Your Hunter Mill District Office

- Call us at 703-478-0283. Our TTY number is 703-736-4460.
- **Fax** us at 703-471-6847
- **Write** to Supervisor Catherine M. Hudgins, North County Governmental Center, 12000 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston, Virginia, 20190-3307
- **Email** us at hntmill@fairfaxcounty.gov
- **Watch** "Connecting with Supervisor Hudgins" on Comcast's Channel 28 on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. and Cox Channel 16 Sundays and Fridays at 4 p.m., Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
- **Meet** Supervisor Hudgins at Saturday office hours that are listed on page 4.

► Legislative Program *Continued from page 7*

ity dictated by the Commonwealth are under-funded in Virginia's budget. The Standards of Quality are set by the Commonwealth to ensure that each public school is equipped with a minimum number of teachers in certain subject areas and other assets that the state deems necessary for school success. The Board feels that in addition to being under-funded, the current standards are far too low and necessitate additional local funding in order to provide a proper education. The Board, as a result, is recommending an increase in state funding for the Standards of Quality and a concurrent increase in the standards themselves.

Human Services Funding

The Commonwealth of Virginia has traditionally under-funded human services programs and left much of that responsibility in the hands of localities. Fairfax County's Legislative Program for 2002 supports increased federal and state funding for such human services programs as aging and long term care, child care, and youth mentoring.

Dulles Rail status

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Dulles Corridor Rapid Transit Project is expected to be released in May 2002 with public hearings to follow. Recently the Board of Supervisors reiterated its support of rail to Dulles to the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation. In a joint letter to the U.S. Secretary of Transportation, Congressmen Davis, Moran, and Wolf expressed their support for additional funding for rail. The Dulles Corridor Task Force is now working on a financial plan for the local funding for rail.

Emergency Numbers

Police/Fire/Ambulance 911	Power Outage 1-888-667-3000
Rape Crisis Hotline.....	703-360-7273



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